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Hay Urban District Council
Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1963

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health.....T.C.R. George, M.R.C.S.,
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Public Health Inspector.....W.D. Morgans, C.R.S.H,





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Hay Urban District

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1963

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Hay Urban District during the year 1963.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/64 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area.....370 acres.

<u>Population.</u>	Census 1931.....	1509.
	Census 1951.....	1452.
	Census 1961.....	1321.
	Estimated Midsummer 1963.....	1320.

The Registrar General's estimated population for each of the last ten years is shown below:

1954. 1955. 1956. 1957. 1958. 1959. 1960. 1961. 1962. 1963.

1450. 1450. 1440. 1420. 1430. 1420. 1410. 1310. 1310. 1320.

Inhabited Houses. The number of inhabited houses was 492 giving an average number of 2.7 persons per house.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
Legitimate	7.	11.	18.	
Illegitimate	0.	0.	0.	
	7.	11.	18.	13.6

The corrected rate was 16.5

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.2

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average but higher than the district death rate.

Illegitimacy. The number of registered illegitimate births was Nil.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
	19.	17.	36.	27.2

The corrected rate was 16.0

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 12.2

The district rate was therefore higher than the national average but lower than the district birthrate.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 live & still births</u>
	0.	0.	0.	0.

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 17.3

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average.

Infantile Mortality. There were no deaths registered during the year in a child of under one year of age.

Total Mortality rate.....0.

Mortality Rate for whole of England and Wales.....20.9

Maternal Deaths. No deaths during the year could be attributed to childbirth, which was very satisfactory.

Maternal Mortality Rate.....0.

Deaths from Special Causes.

Infectious Disease.....	Nil.
Respiratory tuberculosis.....	Nil.
Other forms tuberculosis.....	Nil.
Cancer.....	7.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths. Males.....19. Females.....17

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1.....	0.
Malignant neoplasm, lung.....	2.....	0.
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	0.....	1.
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	0.....	1.
Other malignant neoplasms.....	2.....	0.
Vascular lesions, nervous system.....	2.....	2.
Coronary disease.....	2.....	0.
Hypertension with heart disease.....	0.....	1.
Other heart disease.....	3.....	9.
Other circulatory diseases.....	3.....	0.
Pneumonia.....	1.....	0.
Congenital malformations.....	0.....	1.
Other defined causes.....	2.....	2.
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1.....	0.

Mortuary and Post Mortem Facilities. During the year, with the kind co-operation of the County Welfare Committee, a room at Cockcroft house continued to be used. Post mortem examinations can also be carried out in the same building. Hay R.D.C. and Painscastle R.D.C. also use this building for the same purposes. During the year five post mortem examinations were made in these premises, one body was from Hay Urban, two from Hay Rural, one from Brecknock R.D.C. and one from Kington R.D.C.

Section 2. General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. There were no changes in your public health officers during the year, Mr. W. D. Morgans remaining as your Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities. During the year laboratory facilities were available at Hereford, Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea and Brecon. All water samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford, whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed at the Public Health Laboratories at Cardiff and Hereford.

All the milk testing was done by the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen.

Nursing and Other Facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and home nursing services. The County also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics, where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals. The hospital needs of the residents of the district for all diseases apart from infectious disease are provided by Hereford Hospital and Brecon War Memorial Hospital. Merthyr Isolation Hospital receive cases of infectious disease.

Section 3. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supply. The domestic water supply for the town is collected from springs and streams and piped to storage reservoirs; the water being filtered and chlorinated by drip-feed method the whole system being by gravitation.

The two sand filters at the Hay Common works were cleaned out twice during 1963.

The rainfall during the summer was above average and a more plentiful supply of water was available and no daytime restrictions on the consumption of water was necessary. However, the supply from Hay Common was turned off at night from 16th. June to 13th. November in order to conserve the supply.

The very severe and continuous frost during the winter was responsible for a great number of mains and services being frozen and it was necessary to set up standpipes in several parts of the town from which the inhabitants were able to draw water. The intakes and reservoirs were completely frozen up during January and February. After the thaw came in March, a considerable number of burst water services and mains were discovered and a systematic search was carried out to locate any leaks which were not evident on the surface.

Number of inspections to water supplies.....	19.
Number of water samples taken.....	16.
Number of samples satisfactory.....	3.
Number of samples suspicious.....	2.
Number of samples unsatisfactory.....	11.

Number of houses in the district.....	492.
Number of houses supplied with Council water.....	490.

Hay and Painscastle Area Water Scheme.

Negotiations have continued during the year with the owners of the land adjoining Llanbwchlllyn Lake over acquisition in connection with the use of the Lake as a reservoir for the above named scheme, and an Engineering Inspector from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government visited the Council Offices to investigate the proposals submitted by the Councils in respect of this scheme.

The draft Water Order was published during the year together with a statement by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the proposed constitution of the Radnorshire and North Breconshire Water Board.

Notification was later received that the Minister of Housing and Local Government, having considered the report of his Engineering Inspector, following the local investigation into the Councils' application for an Order under Section 23 and 26 of the Water Act, 1945, empowering them to abstract water from Llanbwchlllyn Lake and the River Wye and the construction of certain works, had decided to make the Order in the form of a deposited draft, and this would be made on the 17th. January 1964, entitled the Hay and Painscastle Areas Water Order, 1964.

Drainage and Sewerage. Hay Sewage Disposal Scheme.

Negotiations continued during 1963 for the acquisition of land for the proposed sewerage works and pumping stations, and the District Valuer's report on his negotiations with British Railways Board for land for the sewage pumping stations and easements for main laying was still delayed. The Council made a Compulsory Purchase Order for the Sewage Disposal Works Site which was submitted to the Welsh Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 23rd. November 1963.

Public Cleansing. Twice weekly collection of house and trade refuse is carried out in the town. This service is undertaken by the Council's workmen and lorry jointly with Hay R.D.C. and Painscastle R.D.C. under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector, the refuse being disposed of by controlled tipping on the Hay and Clyro refuse tips.

The sanitary inspection of the district was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector and the following details give information for 1963.

Number of complaints received.....	44.
Number of complaints investigated.....	44.
Number of premises inspected.....	39.
Number of premises revisited.....	15.
Number of Preliminary Notices served:	
Sanitary defects.....	6.
Structural defects.....	3.
Number of Statutory Notices served.....	0.

Number of visits to drainage work.....31.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Number of visits by Public Health Inspector.....16.
There are 8 licensed premises in the area.
In addition there are 2 licensed clubs and 3 off licence shops.

Number of inspections made.....22.

The Government intend to bring most of the provisions of this Act into operation on 1st. August, 1964. In order to give local authorities and other enforcing authorities time to deal with the registration of premises and to make administrative preparations, it is intended to bring certain provisions into operation a few months earlier. The Ministry of Labour have been consulting local authority organisations and other interested organisations about procedures and forms to be used for administering the Act, and when these questions have been decided, the ministry will issue a series of circulars giving guidance to the authorities responsible for enforcement. It is proposed to give the Act extensive publicity by means of leaflets, posters and press and television advertising.

The Act will cover health, welfare and safety of office and shop workers and other non-industrial workers, except in premises where only self-employed persons work or where the total time worked by an employee or employees amounts to twenty-one hours a week or less; this is to exclude the small shop or office where the only paid help is occasional.

Regardless of the premises covered by the Act, its general provisions are comprehensive in range and cover some 16 matters, such as, cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, lighting, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, accommodation for clothing, eating facilities etc.

The Factory Inspectors of the Ministry of Labour will be responsible for all railway premises, shops and offices on building sites and factories, crown premises and all local authority premises, since it has not been thought advisable to permit local authority's officers to inspect its offices. "Self-inspection" has been decided to be basically undesirable and not in the interest of the inspector or his local authority.

Fire Service Authorities will administer the fire provisions, and it will be the duty of the local authorities to enforce the Act, in all the remaining premises, i.e. all those which are shops or offices as such, and those which are incorporated in buildings not assigned to the Factory Inspector.

Camping Sites. There is no caravan site in the district.

Tents, Vans, Sheds.

Number of visits.....2.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

Any premises found as a result of investigation or complaint to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin are treated with D.D.T. preparations.

Number of premises inspected and treated.....2.

Rodent Control. One full time operator is engaged by the Council. This same man is also engaged by the Hay Rural District Council. This operator worked under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Number of premises inspected during the year.....289.
Number of premises found infested.....68.
Number of premises treated by operator.....50.
Number of premises treated by occupier.....18.
Number of dead rats picked up.....111.
Estimated number of rats killed during the year.....543.

A total of 14 sewer manholes were treated during the year and 10 showed evidence of infestation. 10 road gullies were also test baited and of these 6 were infested and treated.

Legal Proceedings. No legal proceedings were undertaken by the Council during the year.

Section 4. Housing. There are 32 applicants on the Council's "Waiting List" at 31st. December, 1963, and of these, 6 were living in rooms, and 8 living in houses which should be considered for demolition. The applicants could be housed as follows:-

- 4 in one bedroom flats or bungalows
- 18 in two bedroom houses
- 7 in three bedroom houses
- 3 in a four bedroom house

Two applications for Discretionary Grants were received and approved during the year; the total amount of grant involved was £800. Standard Grants in connection with four properties were also approved.

Number of housing inspections made.....36.

Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 (Article 31).

1. The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.....85.
2. The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.....0.
3. The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works, or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders.....0.
4. The number of notices served requiring the execution of works.....0.
5. The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.....0.
6. The number of demolition or closing orders made.....0.

7. The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957.....0.

8. Number of houses demolished.....0.

Section 5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk. There are 2 producer/retailers delivering milk in the district and these hold licences to sell designated milk. There is one dealer selling T.T. Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk operating from a Dairy in the district.

Meat. There is only one licensed slaughterhouse in the district and that is situated at the rear of No.8 Broad Street. The owner of the slaughterhouse at No.2 Castle Street had not carried out modernisation by the 1st. October 1963, which was the "Appointed Day" set by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, and therefore no slaughtering can now take place at No.2 or No.27 Castle Street.

Number of inspections to slaughterhouses by Public Health Inspector..150

Animals killed and inspected:- Cattle.....228
Calves.....0.
Sheep.....868
Pigs.....224.

Meat condemned:- 9 lambs)
1 cow) Emergency slaughter
1 sow pig)

34lbs. liver and 19lbs. other meat

Other foods condemned:- 38 tins)
72 lbs. weight) from shops.

Condemned meat is collected by a Hereford firm who deal in waste food products and other condemned foodstuffs are disposed of in the Council's refuse tip after spraying with fluorescene stain.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or part

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	228	-	868	224	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	9	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	8	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	1.3	-	1.9	0.9	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
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Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
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Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
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Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
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Other Foods. There are 32 shops dealing in foods in your district and may be tabulated as follows:-

Grocers.....	10.
Greengrocers.....	1.
Greengrocer/Confectioners.....	2.
Grocer/Baker.....	1.
Fishmonger/Greengrocer.....	2.
Confectioner/Tobacconist.....	6.
Restaurants.....	4.
Fish and chip shops.....	2.
Butchers.....	4.

Food Preparation Rooms(including bakehouses)

There are 9 such premises in the district as follows:-

4 butchers preparing pressed, pickled or potted meats and sausages,
4 premises where food is prepared in cafes and 1 baking.

Number of inspections made.....16.

No special examination of shop's stock or consignment of food had
been necessary during the year.

Ice Cream Premises.

There are 12 retailers of ice cream in your district,
10 of these sell pre-packed ice cream, one is a producer/retailer, and
one makes his product by the cold mix.

No samples were submitted for analysis during the year,

Number of inspections made.....14.

Fried Fish Shops.

There are two such premises in the district.

Number of inspections made.....22.

Section 6. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The following cases of notifiable infectious disease were
reported to me during the year:-

Measles.....	2cases.
Acute primary pneumonia.....	1 "

The district was, therefore, remarkably free from infectious disease.
No cases were removed to hospital and no deaths occurred as a result
of infectious disease.

Venereal Disease. The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea, for the treatment of these cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis.

The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....	11.
Number of fresh cases added during the year.....	1.
Number of cases removed due to death.....	0.
Number of cases removed as recovered.....	0.
Number of cases removed as left district.....	0.
Number of cases left on register at end of year.....	12.

The number of notifications in recent years is shown below:-

1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
5.	4.	6.	1.	1.	2.	3.	2.	1.	1.

APPENDIX

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF HAY IN THE COUNTY OF BRECONSHIRE.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

1.- INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
i. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	16	20	-	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	16	20	-	-

2.-Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to To H.M. Inspector (4) By H.M. Inspector (5)		(6)
Want of cleanliness S.1	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding(S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a)Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to out- work)	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	2	-	-	-

There was no outwork done in the district during the year.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R.George,

Medical Officer of Health

